

Secretary Blaine's Brother.

For nearly eight years the gray head, round shoulders, and indolent slouching gait of Robert G. Blaine, brother of the secretary of state, have been frequently seen in and around the grounds surrounding the agricultural department and the Smithsonian Institution. The drivers of the cars that run past these institutions have come to look upon him as one of the show objects. He is constantly seen strolling about the grounds and they watch for the chance to say to a stranger: "You see that man walking across the grass? Well, that's Jim Blaine's brother."

During all this time "Bob" Blaine, as he is termed, has been rated on the treasury books as curator of the museum at \$1,400 a year. Practically the museum has been the curator of "Bob" Blaine. A number of efforts were made to dislodge him during President Cleveland's administration by patriots who thought his soft berth just suited to their capacities, but the attempts always failed. Robert Blaine, with the return of his brother to power, is flying at higher game. He wants to be register of wills of the district, a position as easy to fill as his present curatorship, and paying eight or ten times as much. In other words, the register of wills has no duties to perform except such as are discharged by a deputy, and his fees are \$10,000 or \$12,000 a year.—Chicago Times.

Asiatic Child Wives.

The Indian reformers who have taken in hand the re-marriage of girl-widows find no difficulty in obtaining plenty of candidates. Where trouble comes in is as to the disposal of these matrimonially disposed ladies pending the discovery of suitable partners. No sooner does a widow announce her intention of securing another husband if she can than she is disowned by all her kith and kin, cut by her acquaintances, and in some cases sent adrift to pick up a living for herself. The reformers feel under an obligation therefore, to soften the severity of the martyrdom to the best of their ability, and with that object widow homes have been established here and there. The expedient is, perhaps, as good a one as could be devised, but the managers of the homes are not to be envied.

In order to carry out the rest of the scheme, suitors have to be admitted to make choice among the bereaved beauties, and then, of course, a certain amount of philandering must be allowed to enable the high contracting parties to come to terms. All maternal heads of families well know that even when only one affair of this sort is going on in a household, a deal of finesse and circumspection often have to be exercised. Here, then, must have been the perplexities of the native matron at the Juligori home lately, when twenty-five amorous youths were daily courting as many skittish widows. The bridegrooms expectant actually had the audacity to apply for lodgings in the house, but this request was, of course, sternly refused. Since, however, the system appears to bring about a considerable number of marriages, these little imperfections in the machinery may be pardoned. There is no fate more terrible than that of the Indian child-widow, doomed to an isolated and hopeless existence while yet in her early teens.—London Globe.

The Most Costly Leather in the World.

"The most costly leather in the world," said a dealer in fine skins and leather, "is known to the trade as piano leather. American tanners years ago discovered the secret of making Russia leather, with its peculiar pungent and lasting odor, but the secret of tanning piano leather is known only to a family of tanners in Thuringia, Germany. This leather has but one use—the covering of piano keys."

"A peculiar thing about it is that the skins from which it is tanned are procured almost entirely in America. It is a particular kind of buckskin. The skin of the common red or Virginia deer will not make the leather; a species of the animal known as the gray deer and found only in the vicinity of the great northern lakes, alone furnishing the material. The German tanners have an agency in Detroit, which collects the skins of this deer from the Indians and half-breed hunters, who supply the market. The hunters are paid an average price of about 20 cents a pound for the green skins. When the skins are returned to this country as piano leather they cost the piano manufacturers from \$15 to \$18 a pound. The world's supply of this invaluable and necessary material is produced by the Kretschmar family of tanners, who have six establishments in Germany, the largest and best at Gera in Thuringia."—N. Y. Star.

A Bishop's "Bogus" Catechism.

Dr. Billing, bishop of Bedford, tells an amusing story about an East End church collection. It appears that the bishop had been preaching to a very poor congregation, and that when the plate was handed round, moved with compassion, he contributed a sovereign to it. While disrobing in the vestry, he inquired of one of the churchwardens what sort of a collection there had been. "Better than usual, thanks to your lordship" was the reply; "we have got several silver coins and a quantity of copper. There is a sovereign also, but that of course is a bogus one."

The bishop held his peace, but must have felt slightly chagrined at the miscarriage of his liberality. Later he ventured to inquire of the other churchwarden what the collection had amounted to. "Seventeen and eighteenpence halfpenny—much better than usual," was the answer cheerfully given. The prelate does not divulge whether or no he pocketed his modesty, and confessed that some acquaintance with the golden coin enabled him to vouch for its genuineness.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Many Persons

Are broken down from overwork or household cares. Brown's Iron Bitters rebuilds the system, aids digestion, removes excess of bile, and cures malaria. Get the genuine.

Found a Bag of Gold in a Well.

Southwark, Pa., has a sensation out of the usual run. It is the discovery by John McGucken, a young contractor, of a bag of gold. McGucken started with five fellow laborers a few days ago, to clean out an old unused well on a property on Second street, below McKean. During the process, McGucken, who was down the well alone, stumbled across a heavy object. Turning the light of his lantern on the obstruction, he saw it was a heavy canvas bag, carefully sealed and tied with a strong cord. He kicked the bag and heard the merry jingle of metal. McGucken thought he had struck a bonanza, and was so elated that he jerked the bag from its resting place and started for the open air.

When he got half way to the top the bag—which was rotten from its long stay in the well—split, and the coin started to drop out. With his hand over the hole McGucken was hauled to the top by his companions. There lay a pile of glittering gold pieces in \$5, \$10 and \$20 coins.

A hurried count showed that \$940 comprised the bag's contents. How much dropped out of the bag is not known, but McGucken does not think more than \$50. Like a sensible man he proceeded with his work, and when the day was ended did what his fellow workmen say was the queerest thing ever seen in Southwark. Nearly \$500 he divided among them, \$100 he presented to his mother, \$300 went to his own credit in the savings fund, and with the remaining \$100 the young man is celebrating in a mild way his good fortune. He is the curiosity of Tree street, where he lives with his mother, and during the day he attends to his business as if \$1,000 gold bags were every day finds with him.

Who the money belongs to or who placed the bag in the well is a mystery.—Philadelphia Record.

The Invalid's Hope.

Many seemingly incurable cases of blood poison, catarrh, scrofula and rheumatism have been cured by B. B. B. (Botanic Blood Balm), made by the Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. Write to them for book filled with convincing proof.

G. W. B. Raider, living seven miles from Athens, Ga., writes: "For several years I suffered with running ulcers, which doctors treated and pronounced incurable. A single bottle of B. B. B. did me more good than all the doctors. I kept on using it and every ulcer healed."

D. C. Kinard & Son, Towaliga, Ga., writes: "We induced a neighbor to try B. B. B. for catarrh, which he thought incurable, as it had resisted all treatment. It delighted him, and continuing its use he was cured sound and well."

R. M. Lawson, East Point, Ga., writes: "My wife had scrofula 15 years. She kept growing worse. She lost her hair and her skin broke out fearfully. Debility, emaciation and no appetite followed. After physicians and numerous advertised medicines failed, I tried B. B. B. and her recovery was rapid and complete."

Oliver Secor, Baltimore, Md., writes: "I suffered from weak back and rheumatism. B. B. B. has proven to be the only medicine that gave me relief."

The Smorgasbord.

At dinner at the hotel we first saw a peculiar Swedish institution called the smorgasbord, which is considered a stimulator of the appetite. All the natives, before sitting down to the regular table, went to a small side table laden with salted and smoked fish, sardines, fat herring in oil, boiled ham, smoked tongue, cold boiled eggs, pickled crabs, pickles, cheese, bread and butter, and standing around the table, helped themselves with a fork to a choice morsel, now here, now there, which they washed down with small glasses of gin, brandy, and a liquor called kummel, made from caraway seeds. At every dinner in Sweden you will see the men and often many ladies, apparently making a good meal from the varied assortment on this side table, and then they sit down to a regular dinner of several courses. It goes without saying that, to one unaccustomed to its use, the smorgasbord, instead of increasing the appetite, causes it to quickly disappear.—Midnight Sunbeams—Kimball.

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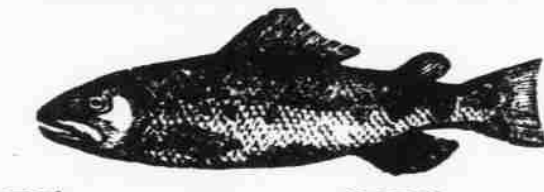
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Freight Train leaves Berkley at 7:00 a. m., arrives in Edenton at 8:30 p. m. Leaves Edenton at 8:30 a. m., arrives in Berkley at 6:30 p. m.

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At Elizabeth City—with steamboats for all points on Pasquotank, North and Alagator rivers.

At Edenton—with N. S. Railroad company's steamboats, Plymouth, and Mary E. Roberts for all points on Chowan, Scuppernon Little, Cashie and Roanoke rivers, and Jamestown & Washington, and Albemarle & Raleigh Rail Roads, also with Str. Haven, Belle for Mackey's Ferry and points on the A. & P. R. R.

The steamer Plymouth, plying between Edenton and Williamston, will go to Hamilton on Tuesday and Friday of each week, leaving that place at 2 o'clock a. m., on Wednesday and Saturday.

Norfolk passenger and freight station at Norfolk and Western Railroad Depot.

Freight received daily, except Sundays.

Through tickets on sale and baggage checked between Edenton and Elizabeth City and Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York by Bay Line and Old Dominion steamers, and N. Y. P. and N. R. R. form Norfolk, and between Norfolk and Washington, Plymouth, Williamston, Windsor and Jamesville.

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